For immediate release

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Recycling crew member receives fatal injuries

A City of Austin Solid Waste Services recycling crew member died today from injuries sustained when hit by a recycling truck while performing his duties earlier in the day.

Jonathon Guyton, 36, of Austin was injured at approximately noon while collecting recycling on a Northwest Austin route in the 1200 block of Knoll Park Circle. He died this afternoon at a local hospital.

Guyton, the driver, exited the truck and walked to the front of the vehicle to pick up a can. The truck rolled forward, according to police, knocking the victim down and causing serious injury. Guyton was transported to University Medical Center at Brackenridge by Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services.

"Today, the City of Austin grieves at the unfortunate death of one of our family," said City Manager Marc Ott. "Our thoughts and prayers are with his family as well as his crew members and coworkers."

Guyton, a SWS Operator in Recycling, worked for the City for two years. Counseling will be available for SWS employees.

The incident is being investigated by the Austin Police Department and the SWS Safety Division. The death is the 40th traffic fatality in Austin in 2008.

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